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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/651,243	08/30/2000	RICHARD REISMAN	1311.1300	1384
5514	7590	02/14/2006	EXAMINER	
FITZPATRICK CELLA HARPER & SCINTO			ALI, MOHAMMAD	
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NEW YORK, NY 10112			PAPER NUMBER	
			2166	

DATE MAILED: 02/14/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Supplemental  
Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/651,243

Examiner

Mohammad Ali

Applicant(s)

REISMAN, RICHARD

Art Unit

2166

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 11/23/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 6-7, 11-12, 16-17, 21, 39-49, and 58-78 (Renumbered as 1-40).
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

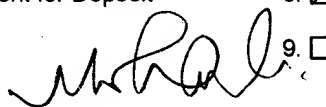
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date 9-29-03
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_



**MOHAMMAD ALI  
PRIMARY EXAMINER**

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. This communication is in response to the Amendment filed on 11/23/04.

After a search and a thorough examination of the present application and in light of the prior art made of records, claims 1, 6-7, 11-12, 16-17, 21, 39-49, and 58-78 are allowed.

Claims 2-5, 8-10, 13-15, 18-20, 22-38, 50-57 have been cancelled.

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Attorney, Donald Min (Reg. No. 47,796) on June 27, 2005.

**Please amend the claims which was filed on 11/23/04 with the new versions as follows:**

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for responding to a current user command associated with one of a plurality of task/domains, the apparatus comprising:  
means for storing cumulative feedback data gathered from multiple users during previous operations of the apparatus and segregated in accordance with the plurality of task/domains;

means for determining a current task/domain with which a current user command inputted by a user is associated;

means for determining a current response to the current user command based on a portion of the stored cumulative feedback data gathered from the multiple users that is associated with the current task/domain;

means for communicating to the user the current response; and

means for receiving from the user current feedback data regarding the current response,

wherein the current feedback data is added to the portion of the stored cumulative feedback data associated with the current task/domain, and

wherein the current task/domain determining means determines the current task/domain by inferring the current user task/domain from at least one of past and current user behavior.

Claims 2-5. (Cancel)

6. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein:

the apparatus is a server on a wide area network,

a user command comprises one of a query for a discovery searching task/domain and a signifier for a signifier mapping task/domain[, and

the current task/domain determining means determines which task/domain is currently intended by examining at least one of past and current user behavior].

7. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for responding to a current user command associated with one of a plurality of task/domains, comprising:

determining a current task/domain with which a current user command inputted by a user is associated;

determining a current response to the current user command based on stored cumulative feedback data associated with the current task/domain, wherein the stored cumulative feedback data is gathered from previous iterations of the method and segregated in accordance with the plurality of task/domains;

communicating to the user the current response;

receiving from the user current feedback data regarding the current response; and

storing the current feedback data,

wherein the stored current feedback data is added to the stored cumulative feedback data associated with the current task/domain, and

wherein the current task/domain is determined by inferring the current task/domain from at least one of past and current user behavior.

**Claims 8-10. (Cancel)**

11. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 7, wherein:  
the method is performed by an apparatus functioning as a server on a wide area network,  
a user command comprises one of a query for a discovery searching task/domain and a signifier for a signifier mapping task/domain[, and  
the current task/domain is determined by examining at least one of past and current user behavior].

12. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing program code executable by a program-controlled apparatus, wherein the code is operable to cause the apparatus to:

determine a current task/domain with which a current user command inputted by a user is associated;

determine a current response to the current user command based on stored cumulative feedback data associated with the current task/domain, wherein the stored cumulative feedback data is gathered from previous iterations of the method and segregated in accordance with the plurality of task/domains;

communicate to the user the current response;

receive from the user current feedback data regarding the current response; and

store the current feedback data,  
wherein the stored current feedback data is added to the stored  
cumulative feedback data associated with the current task/domain, and  
wherein the current task/domain is determined by inferring the current  
task/domain from at least one of past and current user behavior.

**Claims 13-15. (Cancel)**

16. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 12,  
wherein:

the apparatus functions as a server on a wide area network,  
a user command comprises one of a query for a discovery searching  
task/domain and a signifier for a signifier mapping task/domain[, and  
the current task/domain is determined by examining at least one of past  
and current user behavior].

17. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for responding to a current user  
command associated with one of a plurality of task/domains, the apparatus comprising:  
a digital storage device that stores cumulative feedback data gathered  
during previous operations of the apparatus and segregated in accordance with the  
plurality of task/domains;

a first digital logic device that determines a current task/domain with which a current user command inputted by a user is associated;

a second digital logic device that determines a current response to the current user command based on a portion of the stored cumulative feedback data associated with the current task/domain;

a first communication interface that communicates to the user the current response; and

a second communication interface that receives from the user current feedback data regarding the current response,

wherein the current feedback data is added to the portion of the stored cumulative feedback data associated with the current task/domain, and

wherein the first digital logic device determines the current task/domain by inferring the current user task/domain from at least one of past and current user behavior.

**Claims 18-20. (Cancel)**

21. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 17, wherein:  
the apparatus is a server on a wide area network,  
a user command comprises one of a query for a discovery searching task/domain and a signifier for a signifier mapping task/domain[, and



the first digital logic device determines which task/domain is currently intended by examining at least one of past and current user behavior].

Claims 22-38. (Previously Canceled)

39. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein each of the plurality of task/domains corresponds to a category that the current user command is to be performed in.

40. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein an objective of the current user command is determined from the current user command, and the determined objective is carried out within the current task/domain determined for the user command.

41. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 7, wherein each of the plurality of task/domains corresponds to a category that the current user command is to be performed in.

42. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 7, further comprising the steps of:

determining an objective of the current user command from the current user command; and

carrying out the determined objective within the current task/domain determined for the user command.

43. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 7, wherein the stored cumulative feedback data is gathered from multiple users.

44. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 12, wherein the current of task/domain corresponds to a category that the current user command is to be performed in.

45. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 12, wherein the code is operable to cause the apparatus to:

determine an objective of the current user command from the current user command; and

carry out the determined objective within the current task/domain determined for the user command.

46. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 12, wherein the stored cumulative feedback data is gathered from multiple users.

47. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 17, wherein each of the plurality of task/domains corresponds to a category that the current user command is to be performed in.

48. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 17, wherein an objective of the current user command is determined from the current user command, and the determined objective is carried out within the current task/domain determined for the user command.

49. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 17, wherein the stored cumulative feedback data is gathered from multiple users.

Claims 50-57. (Previously Canceled)

58. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the multiple users include the user that inputted the current user command.

59. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the storage means includes a table, and the task/domain segregation is by order of storage in the table.

60. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the cumulative feedback data is segregated for identified and unidentified task/domains.

61. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the storage means includes a non-tabular data structure.

62. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 7, wherein the cumulative feedback data is stored in a table, and the task/domain segregation is by order of storage in the table.

63. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 7, wherein the cumulative feedback data is segregated for identified and unidentified task/domains.

64. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 7, wherein the cumulative feedback data is stored in a non-tabular data structure.

65. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 12, wherein the cumulative feedback data is stored in a table, and the task/domain segregation is by order of storage in the table.

66. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 12, wherein the cumulative feedback data is segregated for identified and unidentified task/domains.

67. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 12, wherein the cumulative feedback data is stored in a non-tabular data structure.

68. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 17, wherein the digital storage device includes a table, and the task/domain segregation is by order of storage in the table.

69. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 17, wherein the cumulative feedback data is segregated for identified and unidentified task/domains.

70. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 17, wherein the digital storage device includes a non-tabular data structure.

**Please add Claims 71-78:**

71. (New) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the means for storing cumulative feedback data stores cumulative feedback data that is gathered from multiple users and the multiple users include the user that inputted the current user command.

72. (New) A method according to Claim 7, wherein the stored cumulative feedback data is gathered from multiple users and the multiple users include the user that inputted the current user command.

73. (New) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 12, wherein the stored cumulative feedback data is gathered from multiple users and the multiple users include the user that inputted the current user command.

74. (New) An apparatus according to Claim 17, wherein the stored cumulative feedback data is gathered from multiple users and the multiple users include the user that inputted the current user command.

75. (New) An apparatus according to Claim 6, wherein the means for storing cumulative feedback data stores cumulative feedback data that is gathered from multiple users and the multiple users include the user that inputted the current user command.

76. (New) A method according to Claim 11, wherein the stored cumulative feedback data is gathered from multiple users and the multiple users include the user that inputted the current user command.

77. (New) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 16, wherein the stored cumulative feedback data is gathered from multiple users and the multiple users include the user that inputted the current user command.

78. (New) An apparatus according to Claim 21, wherein the stored cumulative feedback data is gathered from multiple users and the multiple users include the user that inputted the current user command.

***Reason for Allowance***

3. The prior art made of records does not teach or fairly suggest the combination of elements as recited in independent claims 1, 7, 12, and 17. More specifically, the prior art of records does not specifically teach or suggests as argued by Applicant's and further amended by an Examiner's amendment.

The dependent claim, being definite, further limiting, and fully enabled by the specification and are also allowed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."




***Contact Information***

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mohammad Ali whose telephone number is (571) 272-4105. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday (7:30 am-6:00 pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hosain T. Alam can be reached on (571) 272-3978. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Mohammad Ali  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2166

MA  
January 25, 2006